

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PLAN: FOSTERING STEWARDSHIP

<p>Concept/ The National Park Service Role The National Park Service will share responsibility for resource management with the park's partners.</p>	<p>Resource Protection/Built Environment The National Park Service will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offer technical assistance emphasizing research, design, and technical advice. • Seek to serve in an advisory capacity as a non-voting member of the historical commission. • Actively seek and hold façade and preservation easements. • Sponsor preservation demonstration projects. • Sponsor a restoration matching-grant program for mission-essential buildings and landscape. • Sponsor technical training in the fields of resource management and historic preservation. • Seek to serve as a voting member of the historical commission. (Implemented 2001)
<p>Interpretive and Visitor Services The National Park Service will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bring the park to a national audience via National Park Service publications. • Maintain a visitor orientation center answering the questions who? what? when? and why? about the park. • Facilitate and participate in park partners' programs. • Upgrade and expand the present system of interpretive wayside panels. • Help develop an audiovisual program presenting the story of whaling. • Sponsor more visitor programming and educational outreach. • Take the lead, working with park partners, in rehabilitating or leasing a historic district building for use as classrooms and program space. • Support development of an artist-in-residence program in collaboration with park partners. 	
	<p>Resource Protection/Collections National Park Service collection priorities will emphasize accessibility, climate-controlled storage, and conservation. The NPS will also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with partners to develop a collections management plan. • Work with partners to develop a universal finding aid for park-related collections. • Include a collections management professional on park staff to provide technical assistance and advice to partners on the care of collections.

<p>Park Operations</p> <p>The National Park Service will staff the visitor orientation center. The NPS will also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maintain administrative offices at the visitor orientation center and the U.S. Custom House.• Expand the number of NPS rangers in the park.• Expand the park staff to include a team of resource management experts available to advise park partners.• Expand administrative office space into another building within the historic district.	<p>Boundary</p> <p>No physical change is proposed.</p>
<p>Parking, Circulation and Access</p> <p>The National Park Service will make the visitor orientation center wheelchair-accessible and provide technical assistance to park partners who wish to make their facilities wheelchair-accessible. The National Park Service will also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Work with the city on the redesign of Route 18.• Work with the city to make pedestrian circulation easier and safer.• Identify the Elm Street garage as the primary visitor parking area.• Work with the city to develop a visitor parking plan for the park.• Encourage the city to limit or prohibit parking on the most historically evocative streets; for example, Johnny Cake Hill and Centre Street.• Work with the city to expand shuttle service to include the waterfront during the visitor season.	<p>Legislation</p> <p>The National Park Service will seek authority to provide preservation and interpretive technical assistance to the Nathan and Polly Johnson House and the Baker-Robinson Whale Oil Refinery (similar to the authority for the Rotch-Jones-Duff House).</p> <p>The National Park Service will seek the authority to accept donations of properties or interests in properties for historic preservation purposes.</p> <p>The National Park Service will also seek an increase in its development ceiling to address costs associated with implementing the general management plan.</p> <p>Costs</p> <p>Operations: \$1.4 million Research: \$900,000 Planning: \$300,000 Construction (gross) : \$7.0 million</p>